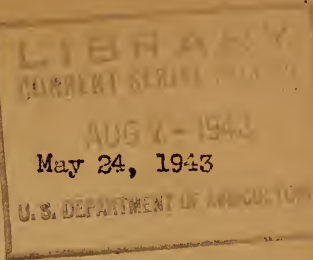


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Food Distribution Administration  
Washington, D. C.



DIRECTOR'S MEMORANDUM NO. 54

Procedure for Handling Compliance Work in Connection with Cooperative Relationships Between the Food Distribution Administration and the Office of Price Administration

Attached is a copy of a memorandum of understanding between the Food Distribution Administration and the Office of Price Administration which provides for cooperation and interchange of information upon compliance activities in the administration of Food Orders and Price Regulations.

Cases of suspected violation of OPA price, rationing or other regulations or orders which come to the attention of FDA branches and divisions in Washington will be referred to the Chief of the Compliance Branch, who will transmit them to the Enforcement Division of OPA.

Information on cases of suspected violation of OPA orders discovered initially by the field compliance personnel or reported to them by other FDA personnel will be transmitted directly to the nearest OPA office. The Regional Administrators will assume general responsibility regarding such arrangements, and copies of all communications will be sent to the regional office. Summary information indicating the number and character of violations reported to and received from OPA will be prepared currently by the Regional Administrator for the Chief of the Compliance Branch.

Necessary instructions for working cooperation on particular programs embodied in the memorandum of understanding or supplemental agreements thereto as approved by the Director will be issued by the interested branches.

*Roy F. Hendrickson*  
Director

Attachment

F-682



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE OFFICE OF PRICE  
ADMINISTRATION AND THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION ADMINISTRATION  
WITH REFERENCE TO COMPLIANCE WORK IN THE ADMINISTRATION  
OF FOOD ORDERS AND PRICE REGULATIONS.

In order to lay the foundation for cooperation and interchange of information between the Food Distribution Administration and the Office of Price Administration on all matters affecting compliance, the following memorandum of understanding has been reached by both agencies:

(1) The Compliance Branch of FDA will inform the Enforcement Division of OPA of all cases of suspected violation of OPA price, rationing, or other regulations or orders which may come to its attention in the course of its activities or by reference from commodity branches. Similarly, the Enforcement Division of OPA will pass on to the Compliance Branch of FDA suspected violations of FDA food orders, regulations, or purchase contracts which come to its attention. When information concerning such suspected violations comes initially to the attention of the Washington office of either agency, it will be directly transmitted to the reciprocating agency. Information concerning cases discovered in the field will be promptly interchanged between the FDA and OPA regional offices. Except in unusual circumstances, communication shall be made in writing, briefly indicating the nature of the suspected violation and the information given to the reciprocating agency. Necessary instructions will be issued by the two agencies.

As an example of the interchange of information, graders of the FDA Livestock and Meats Branch are likely to become aware of sales of ungraded meat, which would be in violation of Maximum Price Regulations 148, 169, or 239, and also, in many cases, violations of the quotas established under Food Distribution Order No. 27. Cases of suspected violation will be reported to the FDA regional administrators, and such reports will be immediately transmitted to the nearest OPA office. Wherever practicable, the FDA and OPA regional administrators will arrange for direct communication. Sales of



ungraded meat discovered initially by OPA will almost certainly involve violations of FDA quota restrictions. Information concerning such suspected violations will be communicated to the compliance officers of FDA.

(2) Statistical and descriptive material relating to compliance activities in connection with commodities in which both agencies are interested will be freely interchanged. Thus, for example, the monthly processor and wholesaler reports on processed foods required under OPA Ration Order No. 13, will be valuable to FDA in the enforcement of certain Food Orders, such as Nos. 3, 6, 16, and 17.

(3) In addition to the interchange of information, further working cooperation between FDA and OPA will contribute to the efficiency of the compliance activities of both agencies. For example, the meat inspectors and graders of the Livestock and Meats Branch of FDA will supervise the standard pork cut trimming in packing houses to insure conformance with the requirements of Maximum Price Regulation 148. Cases of suspected violation will be referred to the FDA regional administrators for reference to OPA in the manner above specified. This action of the meat inspectors will contribute greatly to the enforcement of the price regulation and will assist FDA in obtaining the maximum possible quantities of lard for military, lend-lease and other essential purposes.

(4) Particular programs will from time to time require the closest working cooperation between FDA and OPA, and joint operational activities similar to those described above will be worked out and embodied in agreements supplemental to this memorandum.

/s/ THOMAS I. EMERSON

Director, Enforcement Division  
Office of Price Administration

/s/ ROY F. HENDRICKSON

Director, Food Distribution  
Administration

May 7, 1943

Date

T-502